

A MOST VVICKED

worke of a wretched Whore

the mother of a bastard sonne
who hath beene in England

Wrought on the Person of one Richard Barr,
Seruant to Maister Edling of Woodhall
in the Parrish of Pinner in the Coun-

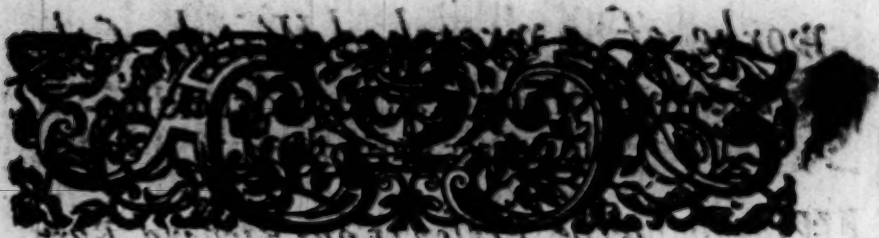
tie of Myddlesex, a myle be-
yond Harrow.

Latelie committed in March last, 1592
and newly recognised according to the truth

by G. B. maister of Arts.



Printed by R. B. for William Barley, and are to
be sold at his shop in Gracious Street.



Hadhoow to will... of...
Hexaticon
 ...in the Coun...

Of wrathfull witches this same paphlet tels,
 How most of all on simple folke they worke.
 What woonders to they may atchiue by spels,
 God weede them out in euery cell they lurke,
 God weeds them out, but satan stil doth hatch,
 fresh Impes whereby of al force he may catch.

Leuit. 24.

If any turne after such to worke with spirits, and
 after soothsayers, to goe after them, then
 will I set my face against that person, and will cutte
 him off from among his people.



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 be sold at his shop in Olden Street

A most wicked worke of a wret-
ched Witch, wrought on the Per-
son of one Richard Burr.



Solong (righte Gentle and cour-
teous Reader) as wee here
in this wretched tale of wuerie,
and miserable estate of our Im-
bationership, we are all vpon the
bell of vs all, in account no better
of our selues, then that we lye
in a perpetuall warrefare, and
most dangerous and deadlie com-
bat.

Our Enimies that we are to fight against are in num-
ber three: The world, the flesh, and the Dyuell: the
Inherof notwithstanding (such is our blinde perseuerance)
the mooste parte esteeme their entire friends, whereas in-
deed they are the hande-mynisters of our Archenimie, all
vnder colourable frendship deceiuing their familiars, and
seeking their death both of bodie and soule.

The three
deadlie eni-
mies of mā-
kind.

Our graund foeman Satan Architect of all mischief,
in scripture hath many proper names, to explaine his ma-
litious nature: Of his crueltie hee is called Abaddon, a
Destroyer, bicause that not like a common enimie hee is
contented with the death and downefall of our bodies, but
imagineth utter destruction of the soule also, and intol-
erable tormentes ioyntlie to them both: Of his craft hee
is tearmed a Thecke, bicause he inuenteth by what mea-
nes he may sliue and vnwittinglie set vpon the godlie. Of
his malice he is called Diabolus, an accuser, bicause euer-
more day and night he is busie, accusing the consciences of
the righteous.

Reuel. 9. 11.

Iohn. 12. 6.

Iob. 1. 10.
and 2. 5.

He is named a Dragon of his pollicie, bicause that since

the time of Adam, among so many thousands, in so many
yeares, there hath bene founde none so wise or worie,
that could withstand his stratagems, but he hath wounded
and poisoned them well nigh unto death.

He hight a Lion also of his power, because that as the so-
lde booke of the Lion is powerfull: so especiallie consisteth
great strengthe and power in his taile.

We doubt not but this aduersarie, or Apollyon of ours
of himselfe is mightie, puissant, & strong enough againste
such faintie eswords, and willfull flo-backs as we are, yet
to make his victorie more sure, and not to faile of his pur-
pose, he bleth also the force of his tayle: that is, his in-
thraled bondslaves, whom he hath sealed to execute his will
and pleasure vpon the harmelesse, which is personned
many times diuers and sundry waies: neyther dooth he
so blually shew his pollicie, puissance and power by anye
his officers, as he dooth by subtile sedemen of false doctrine,
and enchanting sorcerers: the one in stead of instruments
to inueigle the mind and soule, the other to assaile the mor-
tal bodie, and beguile and untrappe the senses.

I speake nothing of those plesasedmen, but I pur-
pose (God willing) to treat of damnable wretches, of their
spight and spelles, odious in the sight of God, detested of
the good, and most hurtfull to themselves, manifesting
what power and preminence through Gods permission,
that Father of Sinne Satthan hath ouer his wozlings.

About thre score and last, one Richard Burr, seruant to a
Gentleman, named M. Edling, dwelling at Woodhall
in the parishe of Pinner in Middlesex, a myle beyond Har-
row on the Hill, going to his maysters Barne, standing
at the Townes ende, accompanied with a great massing
dogge, suddenly espyed an Hare start before him, and thin-
king to haue let his dogge at her, missed of his purpose: so
the dogge not onely refused to follow, but in stead of follo-
wing began to faint, and runne rounde about his maister,
and

and to whine pittifully; as who shoulde say that kinde of
game was not for them: The man taking heartie grace
himselfe, followed sunnighe: that he saw her take in at one
Murther Arkyne house; whome before that time he knewe
to be a notorious witch: Wherupon blessing himselfe; &
mindful of the name of God, he boldly said, auant witch.

This was the first occasion (namely the learning of hir
a witch) of al poore Richard Burts future tragedie: but to go
forward. It hapned the said Richard Burt a month after,
meeting hir nere to his maisters barn, and giuing hir the
time of the daye, like a peruerse woman, like a perillous
waspe, like a pestiferous witch, incensed with hate at the
sight of him held do wne hir head, not daigning to speake.

Unspeaka-
ble is the
malice of a
wicked wo-
man.

The next day which was on tuesday the 8. of march
going againe to his maisters barn to thrash, & serue cer-
taine beasts, because he would not trudge too and fro for
letting his work, carried his dinner with him, which was
bread, butter, chese and applepy, & a bottle of the best beer:
being come to the barn he laide his provision, and settled
close to his busines, labouring hard til twelue of the clock,
at which time hunger assailing and custome preuailling, he
went to dinner, wherin he had not long continued, but ther
was opposite to his view a monstrous blacke Cat among
the straw, which began to shake the strawe, and to make a
wad thereof. The fellow being agast start vp with his ap-
plepie in his hande (for it had byn pittie a poore hungry
threher should haue lost so good a repast) suddenly hearing
a voice that commanded him, come away: Away quod he,
whither shal I come? The spirit answering againe, sayde:
Come and leaue thy vittels behind thee and thy knife also.
Poore simplicity keeping his applepy stil in his hand, came
to the barn doore, where suddenly hee was hoised vp into
the aire, and carried ouer many fields, by the way espyng
his mai. plow a plowing, but not able to cal vnto them, al-
though he seemed to haue his memoire most perfect: thence
passing ouer to Harrow, where on the side of the hill there

is a greates ponde was bytome throughe it; e ther left his hat
 which was a token of that torture) because he could stay in
 no place, but was violentlie rapt by the pill. and ouer the
 tops of the trees at Harrow Church, so farre he absolutelie
 remembere, but being hated further, he was taken (as he
 seemeth) into a place which was all fire, where was heard
 such lamentable howling and dolefull crieng, as if all the
 damned fiends of hell had bene tortured, and tormenten in
 that Limbo.

Don heare into how strange and passionate a place this
 Richard Burt was translated, now it remaineth to shewe
 with what Symptomes the place was furnished.

First therefore (he affirmeth) it was exceeding hot, re-
 plenished with moze than Cymerian darkenesse, plenti-
 full in filthy words and stinches, full of noise and clamours,
 insomuch that hee seemed to heare infinite millions of dis-
 crepant noises, but saw nothing save onelie the fire which
 caused such an unquenchable dꝛouth in his stomache, that
 presently minding a pennie hee had in his purse: looked
 round about for an Alehouse where he might spend it.

Hearing therefore these foresaid voices, and thinking
 some of them had spake vnto him, he answered sayeng, there
 is no worke for me to doo: immediatlie it was reanswe-
 red, coast away with him, but with this proviso thou pas-
 sest that thou be secret, and say nothing when thou com-
 mest home: but he replied, and said, my maister will aske
 me where I haue bene: with that he was not suffered to
 speak any further, but his tong was douted in his mouth,
 his legs burnt, hands and armes scorched, his coat pincht
 of his backe, and throwne into the fire, immediatly soying
 ouer hedges and ditches, solosed in mire and durt, scratched
 with thornes and byters, so singed and disfigured, that it is
 both lamentable and terrible to behold him.

Being brought againe to Pinner where his Hayster
 doth dwell, he first repaired to a ditch to dꝛinke, and after-
 wards

3
wards in this pickle visited one of his acquaintance, whose
sometime served M. Edling also: but whether hee sought
thither for that his friends house was nighest, or would not
go home for shame that hee had bene absent foure whole
daies together, I cannot shew you: Onlie this, being sun-
day morning his maister chanced (as his custome was to
pass by that way to Church at the same instant, whose not
knowing howe Richard Burt his lost shepe, demanded of
his quondam servant if he had gotten him a man: a man
fit quod he, to whom it is your man Richard: my man goeth
the Gentlemen, that cannot bee, and therewithall heeing
halfe amazed made a pause and earnestlie beheld him, at
length willing him in the name of God to tel where he had
him though he could not speake, yet having memory made
signes and euermore pointed toward the house where mo-
ther Atkins did dwell, looking so grisse and fiercelie that
waile, that he toze and redde al that came in his hands.

In the meane while it was thought requisite, that the
Parson of the towne named M. Smith, and mai Burbridge
of Pinner parks gentleman should be sent for: In whose com-
ing to the dumbe man and pittieing his plight, the Pa-
rson charitably and like himselfe laboured about him, who
ched open his teeth got open his mouth, indented his fin-
ger under his tongue, and with much adoe got it vnfolded,
the first wordes he spake were these: Alas worth mother
Atkins, was worth mother Atkins, for she hath bewitched
me: whereupon he would not be quiet, but ever requested
that he might speak with him. At this time Burbridge and M. Smith caused him to be sent
for, who being present, he neuer ceased til he had scratched
and djaune blond on his, perswading himselfe that was a
remedy sufficient under God, that would make him well a-
gaines: for since that he hath mended reasonable, and nowe
goeth to the Church.

The dutie
of a good
minister.

Thus

Thus have you heard briefly the cases and deaths of
 those Richard Burt sustained (as they say) in sundry
 in the night, the ninth, tenth and eleventh daies of March
 last past, what time hee was absent from his chamber the
 foresaid whole daies, and thus (as ye have heard) after the
 foresaid manner.

Thus then leave we Richard Burt, but with another
 Ackins we must prosecute a little further.

It is credibly reported in Pinnet, that the saide mother
 Ackins on a time resorting to the house of Mr. Burbridge for
 milke (at what time the milke were hells at the doore and
 not obtaining hir desire, immediately upon hir departure
 out of doores, the Creams beganne to swell and rise in the

Witches are
 the moſte
 vnproſita-
 ble errours
 in the
 world.

hought
 to be

cheese, that it burst open the top of the Churne, and ranne
 about the kitchen and forth at the sinke-hole, and all their
 businesse for that day went to waste, that at was quite
 lost, and nothing could possibly be well ordered. Rebels
 towards God: enemies to mankind: caterpillers of a
 common wealth, the fire is too good to consume them.

Such and such like actions of extreme rage and cru-
 elty are imputed to her, only we will conclude, and shut
 up these clauſes, with this that followeth.

Not long since the foresaid witch entering the house
 of one Gregorie Coulson, to crave some reliefe (for the ly-
 tle of a good peoples charitie) she found him busi-
 ed with some domesticall affaires, making her
 launce (I thinke it was) and framing hir petition to him,
 because he did not straight watelemall and accomplish it
 she stung forth in a flame: But it was not longe after her
 departure, but he had finished his labour also, and setting
 forth his hands into a yard, suddenly they began to move
 by the ship and strike to and fro, that they neuer ceased af-
 ter till they were



